GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3897
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2005
CONTRACT LABOUR IN INDUSTRIAL UNITS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that majority of the industrial units in the country including Andhra Pradesh have contract labour which are deprived of minimum wages, increments, bonus, ESI, PF and other benefits;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received during the last three years, regarding violation of labour laws, State-wise;

(c) the remedial steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether instructions have been issued to the EPFO and ESIC conduct special drive in the country especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO)

(a) to (e): A statement is annexed.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3897 BY SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.08.2005 REGARDING CONTRACT LABOUR IN INDUSTRIAL UNITS.

(a) & (b): The Government is aware that contract laboaur system is prevalent in industrial units in the country including Andhra Pradesh and that some instances of violation of labour laws have come to notice. The appropriate Government, in respect of a majority of industrial units in the country, is the concerned State Government and as such, State-wise data in respect of complaints received under various labour laws is not being maintained centrally. However, so far as the State of Andhra Pradesh is concerned, during the last three years, in respect of establishments coming under the jurisdiction of central Government, 100 complaints have been received and 190 claim application have been filed for less payment under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. The Government of Andhra Pradesh have reported that, during the last three years, 485 inspections were made, either complaint - based or suo moto, under the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 and 35 prosecutions were filed against the erring Principal Employers and Contractors, out of which 9 were disposed of.

(c): On receipt of the complaints, the same are investigated and remedial action taken, depending on the nature of violation, by launching prosecution against defaulting employers or filing claim applications in accordance with the provisions of various labour laws.

(d) & (e): The Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) and the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) have been instructed to conduct inspection of establishments within their jurisdiction, which includes the State of Andhra Pradesh, on a regular basis to secure compliance with the provisions of labour laws. As a result of intensive surveys conducted in April - May, 2005, by ESIC, 177 new units have been covered in Andhra Pradesh region. Special Drives conducted by EPFO in January - March 2005 have resulted in coverage of 1992 establishments in Andhra Pradesh with 69153 members.